बिहार के विद्युत संयंत्रों को की गई घटिया कोयले की आपूर्ति

477. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बिहार राज्य की विद्युत परियोजनाओं को घटिया कोयले की आपूर्ति किये जाने के आरोप सरकार के सामने आये हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन आरोपों का ब्यौरा क्या है तथा क्या सरकार ने इन आरोपों की जांच की है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी तथ्य क्या हैं तथा इन अनियमितताओं के लिए किन-किन लोगों को जिम्मेदार पाया गया है, और उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाई की गई है?

कोयला मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कान्ति सिंह): (क) से (ग) बिहार राज्य विद्युत बोर्ड ने ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि० के मुग्मा सालनपुर क्षेत्र से दिनांक 28.7.1997 को प्रेषित उस रेक के कोयला की निम्न गुणवत्ता के बारे में शिकायत की है, जो दिनांक 1.8.1997 को बिहार राज्य विद्युत बोर्ड के मुजफ्फरपुर तापीय विद्युत गृह में पहुंचा था।

कोयले की गुणवत्ता संबंधी विवाद का निपटारा करने हेतु, यह निर्णय लिया कि रेक से कोयले के नमूने लिए जाने चाहिएं तथा केन्द्रीय विद्युत अनुसंधान संस्थान, बंगलौर में इनका विश्लेषण किया जाना चाहिए। जांच परिणाम से इस बात की पुष्टि हो गई कि कोयला निम्न गुणवत्ता का था। इस निष्कर्ष के परिणामस्वरूप, ई०को०लि० प्रबंधन को निर्देश दिया गया कि वे मुजफ्फरपुर ता०वि० गृह यार्ड से रेक वापस मंगवाए तथा इस रेक से संबंधित रेलवे को देय सभी विलंब-शुल्क तथा अन्य लागत/शुल्क का पूर्ण उत्तर दायित्व स्वीकार करें।

ई०को०लि०/को०इंलि० के प्रबंधन को कोयला कंपनी के नियमों के अनुसार अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई शुरू करने का सुझाव दिया गया है। सालनपुर क्षेत्र के महाप्रबंधक, बोंजेमेहारी एजेंन्ट, साइडिंग के प्रभारी तथा सालनपुर क्षेत्र के क्षेत्रीय बिक्री अधिकारी को निलंबन के आदेश जारी कर दिए गए हैं। कोयला नियंत्रक के कार्यालय से भी संबद्ध अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध इसी प्रकार की कार्रवाई किए जाने का अनुरोध किया गया है।

Expenditure incurred by CIL on litigation

478. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total expenditure incurred by CIL on litigation during the last three years, subsidiary-wise;

(b) the reasons for abnormal increase in expenditure on litigation;

(c) whether New Panel of Advocates/ Legal Advisors have been overdue, action taken in this regard; and

(d) whether Government have taken fresh initiatives for revamp of Legal Cells to ensure cost effectiveness, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Total expenditure incurred by CIL during the last 3 years (subsidiary-wise) is as under:—

(Figs. in Rs. Lakhs)

Company	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
ECL	47.62	57.23	55.12
BCCL	67.44	61.32	65.13
CCL	30.39	40.94	31.10
NCL	10.54	9.50	16.21
WCL	21.45	21.24	36.93
SECL	43.71	56.87	37.75
MCL	51.19	48.47	50.09
CMPDIL	1.93	1.92	2.20
NEC/ CIL(HQ)	15.54	10.34	22.21
TOTAL:	319.81	307.83	316.74

(b) There is no abnormal increase in expenditure on litigation as could be seen from the table above. However, some variations between year to year is unavoidable as expenses depend on the number and nature of cases CIL/ Subsidiaries have to handle.

(c) Advocates are kept on panel based on exigencies and requirement but there is no fixed tenure for the panel.

(d) Central Government has already taken action to minimise litigation over the disputes between the Public Sector Enterprises inter-se and between the Public Sector Enterprises and the Central Government Department requiring clearance of the matter by a Committee of Secretaries before resorting to or pursuing with a litigation in a Court of Law.

Supply of coal

479. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to supply coal from North Karampura Coalfield to the proposed thermal power station by the Bihar State Electricity Board in North Karampura area;

(b) if so, the present status of the same; and

(c) if BSEB has not succeeded in putting up the power plant, will Government consider putting up a captive power plant for Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) in North Karampura region on BOO basis by any private enterepreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) had proposed to set up a thermal power station near North Karampura area and the feasibility report for the power station of 2 × 500 MW submitted to Central Electricity Authority in 1988. In the meeting held in the Ministry of Coal on 30.5.1989, Ministry of Coal had agreed in principle to arrange coal for Stage-I of the project from North Karanpura coalfield. In November, 1992, BSEB informed that in view of the uncertainty of the North Karanpura State—I (2 × 500 MW) due to environmental issues, proposed Nabinagar thermal power station (2 × 500 MW) had been considered to be installed for the requirement of Bihar.

Power Grid Corporation is promoting 1000 MW Thermal Power Station at Nabinagar alongwith development of a captive block in North Karanpur coalfield through competitive bidding.

Persons killed in the Central Coal field in Bihar

480. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed in the Central Coal field, Bihar in October, 1997 and during the last five years;

(b) the action taken against those responsible for callousness towards human lives in the coal belt of Bihar; and

(c) the measures proposed to ensure adequate safety measures by miners as well as stoppage of illegal mining in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL) the number of persons killed in Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) in Bihar during the last five years and in 1997 (upto October, 1997) are given below:

1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997 (upto Oct)	Total
24	14	23	22	19	20 (8 in Oct)	122

(b) Details of action taken in respect of punishment awarded in all fatal accidents in CCL during the last five years and in 1997 (upto October, 1997) are given in Statement.

(c) Preventive steps as laid down in the Coal Mines Safety, Expert Committee recommendations as also the recommendations of various Courts of Inquiry, Safety Conferences, etc. are adopted by the mine managements. For better observance of these steps, Government is promoting self-regulation by coal companies through internal safety